

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 NEA-10 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 IGA-02

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 OMB-01 MC-02 L-03 AID-05 /065 W
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R 211115Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9195

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

HQ USAF WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 9508

SECDEF FOR ASD/ISA/DSAA; USAF FOR LGF, USCINCEUR FOR ECJ4/7-SAFT

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, IR, GB

SUB: THIRD COUNTRY TRAINING - IRAN/GABON

1. THE IIAF HAS FORMALLY REQUESTED USG PERMISSION TO TRAIN
SELECTED REPUBLIC OF GABON AIR FORCE PERSONNEL IN IRAN. THE
EXTENT OF THE TRAINING CONTEMPLATED IS FOR 15 PILOTS TO BE
TRAINED IN THE C-130 AND 15 PILOTS TO BE TRAINED IN THE F-5E.
THE TIME FRAME DESIRED IS FOR THE TRAINING TO COMMENCE IMMEDIATELY
UPON FORMAL APPROVAL BY THE USG AND TO LAST APPROXIMATELY 15-18
MONTHS.

2. EMBASSY COMMENT: GOOD GABONESE-IRANIAN RELATIONS HAVE
BEEN WARMING FURTHER OVER PAST YEAR AS A RESULT OF PRESIDENT
BONGO'S VISIT TO TEHRAN IN OCTOBER 1975 (75 TEHRAN 10546).
1975 TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES PROVIDES FOR
GABONESE URANIUM SALES TO IRAN AND IRANIAN ASSISTANCE IN
HOSPITAL AND LABORATORY CONSTRUCTION (LAGOS 11520). IRANIANS
REGARD GABON AS ONE OF WEST AFRICA'S "STABLE AND RESPONSIBLE"
GOVERNMENTS AND, IN LINE WITH SHAH'S DESIRE TO PLAY CON-
STRUCTIVE ROLE IN AFRICA TO OFFSET SOVIET ADVENTURISM,
ARE FAVORABLY DISPOSED TO AID AND TRADE WITH GABON AND
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OTHER MODERATE AFRICAN STATES. REQUEST FOR GABON AIR

FORCE TRAINING MAY ALSO BE RELATED TO CURRENT VISIT OF
FRENCH CHIEF OF STAFF IN PREPARATION FOR OCTOBER 4-7
VISIT TO IRAN OF FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING.

3. EMBASSY LIBREVILLE MAY WISH TO COMMENT.
HELMS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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